

Today's Board of Visitors schedule
1 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.: Meeting with College staff, Commonwealth Auditorium
2:30 p.m. to 4:45 p.m.: Meeting with faculty, Commonwealth Auditorium
4:45 p.m. to 7 p.m.: Meeting with students, Commonwealth Auditorium



Tribe outlasts Dragons
Proficiency at the free-throw line coupled with a gritty defensive performance pushed the College over Drexel 57-50 Wed. night.
See BASKETBALL page 10

The Flat Hat

The twice-weekly student newspaper of the College of William and Mary ♦ Est. 1911

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COURTESY PHOTOS — WMEDU/BOV

Board of Visitors Rector Michael Powell '85, Secretary Suzann Matthews '71 and members John Charles Thomas and Barbara Ukrop '61 will attend today's forums with students, faculty and staff. BOV members Anita Poston J.D. '74 and Kathy Hornsby '79 will also attend.



BOV BACKLASH

Protest groups organize

Focus shifts from anger about Nichol's resignation to calls for BOV transparency

By ALEX GUILLÉN
Flat Hat Assoc. News Editor

More than a week after former College President Gene Nichol announced his resignation, student protest groups are transforming into cohesive organizations with specific goals aimed at the reformation of the Board of Visitors.

One group, Tribe United, was formed before the BOV's decision in an effort to promote Nichol's contract renewal, according to founding member Sarah Rojas '10.

"Once the decision became public, we transformed into an all-inclusive organization working to promote the best interests of the College," she said in an e-mail. "We embody the values that President Nichol stood for, and we are now all different sections of the College community working together to keep our College heading in the right direction."

She added that there are approximately 35 students at the core of Tribe United. As of press time, 427 students were members of the Tribe United Facebook group.

Rojas said the group is looking forward to today's forums.

"We hope that this meeting with the BOV is the first of many and that we can continue an open and transparent relationship in the future," she said. "It is important that students, faculty, staff and alumni are able to voice their concerns to the BOV when they come to campus and in the months to follow."

See BOV page 4

See PROTESTS page 4

Blair resigns from BOV

Robert Blair '68 raises questions on non-renewal consensus; BOV here for open forum with faculty, staff and students

By BRIAN MAHONEY
Flat Hat News Editor

In an e-mail addressed to the College community Wednesday, Robert Blair '68 announced his resignation from the College's Board of Visitors.

Blair said that he was "one of several" board members who supported the contract renewal of former College President Gene Nichol, who resigned Feb. 12.

"Although no vote was taken, one was not required if the contract was not to be renewed," Blair said. "Those for renewal were given ample opportunity to argue their points. We ultimately found ourselves in the minority."

Blair's statement contradicts earlier statements by BOV Rector Michael Powell '85 that the board's decision was unanimous. Powell told The Flat Hat in an e-mail this week that he had spoken with the board about holding a unified position.

"I have said there was not a vote, only a dis-

cussion and a consensus," Powell said. "There was a discussion about speaking with one voice and whether anyone objected to describing our decision as unanimous. I did not hear any objection and believe other board members understood this. I deeply regret if I misunderstood Mr. Blair's intent."

Blair reaffirmed his position in an interview with The Daily Press Wednesday, after board members Henry Wolf and John Gerdelman said that the board had reached a unanimous decision.

"There was not a unanimous consensus, decision or other unanimous action against renewal," Blair said.

Wolf told the Daily Press that several board members had approached Nichol on February 10 and informed him as a "courtesy" that his contract would not be renewed. Wolf said that he and other board members had not known Nichol would resign until the morning of Nichol's resignation.

In an interview with The Flat Hat, BOV member Barbara Ukrop '61 confirmed that she — along with Powell and one unnamed board member — met with Nichol to inform him of the

board's decision. Ukrop said that she had agreed with the non-renewal decision.

Ukrop said that the non-renewal decision had been agreed upon at a BOV dinner in the days leading up to the board's February meeting, but did not recall Powell using the word "unanimous."

"I guess maybe what [Powell] meant is that he thought the board agreed to speak with one unanimous voice," she said.

In his e-mail Wednesday, Blair attributed his resignation to an "incipient effort" on the part of BOV members to "pick apart" Nichol's presidency.

Yesterday, the College denied a Flat Hat Freedom of Information request for the Board of Visitors' 360-degree review of Nichol and the findings of the independent consulting firm that appraised him.

BOV BACKLASH

ACLU willing to sue BOV

By ANGELA COTA
Flat Hat Assoc. News Editor



COURTESY — ACLU

The American Civil Liberties Union is willing to help students sue the Board of Visitors because they claim that the board's actions were a violation of Virginia's Freedom of Information Act.

In a closed session last week, BOV members decided to make Dean of the Marshall-Wythe School of Law Taylor Reveley the interim president. Virginia law states that motions agreed to in a closed session must also be agreed upon in an open session in order to take effect.

Rector of the Board of Visitors Michael Powell countered that the BOV had to make a decision due to Nichol's early resignation.

"[Reveley] is president designate and the board will formally appoint him this week," Powell said. "Counsel has approved of this approach given the vacancy suddenly created by Mr. Nichol's unexpected resignation."

The director of Virginia's branch of the ACLU, Kent Willis, disagrees.

"[The BOV] can go into a closed executive session to discuss personnel decisions, but any

vote after that needs to be taken in open session," he said.

"They had a right to meet in closed session ... on Nichol's job, but they did not vote in the public, and it is clear to us in that regard that they did violate the open vote law," Willis said.

The ACLU is willing to send out a press release or help with litigation based on the violation of FOIA law.

"The basic rule is in law 2.2-3711, section B," Staff Attorney for FOIA Alan Gernhardt said. "They can do a straw poll to get a sense of what their general consensus is in closed session and people can say, 'Hey, I'm going to vote this way,' but it doesn't take effect until agreed upon in open session."

The law reads: "No resolution, ordinance, rule, contract, regulation or motion adopted, passed or agreed to in a closed meeting shall become effective unless the

See ACLU page 3

Alum shaken by shootings

Bowers '89, now an NIU history professor, watched the shooting aftermath from window

By ALISAN VANFLEET
Flat Hat Staff Writer

For J.D. Bowers '89, an assistant professor of history at Northern Illinois University, college campuses have always been a place where the free exchange of ideas was a welcome and secure tradition. But after last week's fatal shootings at NIU, Bowers says these beliefs have been shaken to the core.

Last Thursday afternoon, Bowers and the entire NIU community experienced tragedy when a lone gunman opened fire on a large lecture class in Cole Hall, killing five students and wounding 17 others before taking his own life.

Bowers, who was in his office when the shootings occurred, received a call from a student at 3:12 p.m. After explaining that there had been a shooting, she asked what he thought she should do. Bowers told her to remain where she was and stay safe, then ran down the hall to the history department office, which overlooks Cole Hall.

"Students were fleeing ... some were down on the ground bleeding, paramedics were already on the scene, and police officers in full gear, with high-powered rifles and flak jackets, were everywhere," he said. "At least two students were down and visible in our line of sight, just across the bridge. Even through the closed windows of a seventh floor office, I

could hear the sirens of the arriving emergency vehicles — police, fire, ambulances — and sense the fear."

NIU's emergency plans, instituted in light of last spring's Virginia Tech shootings, were implemented. Bowers's building and the rest

of campus were immediately placed on lockdown.

In the aftermath of that afternoon, Bowers received more information on the shootings. They had taken place in the very classroom in which he had lectured to 325 students every Monday and Wednesday during the previous semester. Friday, Bowers received a "most

See SHOOTINGS page 4



COURTESY PHOTO — NIU MEDIA SERVICES

Students at Northern Illinois University held a candlelight vigil for the five students killed in last Thursday's shootings.

NEWSINSIGHT

The Flat Hat

‘Stabilitas et Fides’

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Corrections

In last Tuesday's news article, "Former College coach advocates Kenyan reform," the author was listed as Wayne Pearson. The article was co-authored by Robert Oehrig.

Weather

Friday



High 45°
Low 42°

Saturday



High 59°
Low 34°

Sunday



High 51°
Low 36°

Source: www.weather.com

Quote of the Week

“We really want a more open, democratic process in the way the BOV makes its decisions.”

—Margaret Smith '10 on the position of Students for a Democratic Society concerning the BOV.

See PROTESTS page 1

News in Brief

State Senate approves \$78 billion budget

The Virginia Senate approved a two-year, \$78 billion budget 21-19 yesterday. The House of Delegates passed the bill 93-5.

“I almost feel like I’ve been sucker-punched,” said Sen. R. Edward Houck (D-Spotsylvania) to the Daily Press. He felt that the Democratic majority had taken advantage of Republicans. “The lines have been drawn in the sand, the words have been exchanged and the votes have gone up on the board, not in unity but division.”

The budget has been contentious between political parties for several reasons, including Medicaid, reserve funds and public school funding.

The budget stopped further cuts in to higher education funding and kept \$18.2 million for undergraduate student financial aid.

President of FIRE to speak on First Amendment Rights

The Student Assembly Department of Student Rights, along with the College Republicans and Democrats, will be hosting Greg Lukianoff, president of the Foundation for Individual Rights in Education (FIRE), to come speak at the College Feb. 27.

FIRE, a non-profit organization focused on protecting individual rights at colleges and universities around the country, has defended thousands of students and faculty in cases involving personal rights.

The talk will take place Wednesday in Washington 201 at 6:30 p.m. and will be free and open to the public.

— by Isshin Teshima and Alex Guillén

By the Numbers

\$5 million

The amount accidentally deposited in a New York man’s bank account. Instead of notifying the bank, the man withdrew over \$2 million and bought expensive items. He is currently under arrest for grand larceny.

2,381

The number of people in the U.S. serving life sentences without possibility of parole for crimes they committed while under 18.

\$100,000

The family income below which tuition is free at Stanford University, based on an aid plan released Wednesday.

\$600 million

The cost of a dormitory at Yale University that will house 703 additional students. The Jamestown dormitories at the College cost \$27.6 million to construct and house 388 students.

— by Maxim Lott



COURTESY PHOTO — WIKIPEDIA COMMONS

Stanford University raised \$832 million this year, the most out of all U.S. higher education institutions.

BEYOND THE BURG

Universities report record year of fundraising

Colleges nationwide report \$30 billion in private donations this year

By ISSHIN TESHIMA
Flat Hat Insight Editor

In a preliminary report released recently by the Council for Aid to Education, it was reported that colleges nationwide raised a total of about \$30 billion in private donations, a 6 percent increase from last year. The report also showed that the monetary gap between some institutions has been growing at a constant rate, making some institutions wealthier when compared to others.

The council, a non-profit organization aimed at producing policy research for higher education purposes, also reported that nearly \$7.7 billion, or one-fourth of the total funds, were donated to 20 institutions, less than one percent of the nation’s colleges and universities. Five universities were recorded as raising more than \$400 million,

and Stanford University raised the most with \$832 million.

The College’s fundraising figures are not yet available.

The report comes at a time when institutions have been accused of being fund-raising machines that do not care about college policy, as well recent movements by Congress that encourage universities to spend more of their endowments.

However, universities have responded to the position of Congress and criticism from the academic community by stating that their endowments are always put to good use.

“Harvard and many other universities make enormous contributions to our nation in research, scholarship, medicine and the arts due in large part to the resources we raise and invest,” Harvard University spokesman John Longbrake said.

Universities have also been using their resources for various aid purposes. Starting with Harvard late last year, wealthy schools have been announcing ambitious financial aid programs. Stanford University recently used a large portion of its funds in a monumental financial aid program that would provide free tuition for families that earn less than \$100,000 per year and free tuition, room and board to those students whose families’ household incomes are less than \$60,000 per year.

“Our donors hopefully are feeling very good about how we are making the absolute best use of their philanthropic dollars,” Stanford’s Vice President for Development Martin Shell said. “It is something we take very seriously. There are an unlimited number of very worthwhile causes and needs out there.”

STREET BEAT

What would you like to ask the BOV?



How do you feel about Blair’s resignation?

Erin Soller '08



How do you think you know more about the College’s issues when some of you don’t even live in the state?

Stephanie Vallez '08



What were the findings of the outside firm hired to evaluate Nichol?

Melissa Ruiz '09



Why has no more information been made public about your decision?

Will Brannon '11

— photos by Spencer Atkinson and interviews by Sarah Hays

CAMPUS POLICE BEAT

Feb. 12 to Feb. 17

Tuesday, Feb. 12 — A student reported that her camera was stolen while attending a party in the basement of the Units. The camera is worth approximately \$100. **1**

— A student reported that his bike was stolen from Ewell Hall between Friday and Sunday. The estimated value of the bike is \$50. **2**

Wednesday, Feb. 13 — A

screen was stolen from room 201 of Morton Hall. Its estimated value is \$165. **3**

Thursday, Feb. 14 — A bike was reported stolen from the back of the University Center. Its estimated value is \$70. **4**

— A student reported that they received a call on their cell phone from a male trying to sell magazines and asking about credit card information.

— A student reported their bike stolen from the Botetourt Complex. Its estimated value is \$100. **5**

Friday, Feb. 15 — A student reported that they suspected someone was tampering with their mail.

— A bike was stolen from Dupont Hall. The estimated value of the bike is \$400. **6**

Saturday, Feb. 16 — An officer was assaulted and injured while responding to a fight at Trinkle Hall. The incident is currently being investigated. **7**

— A graduate student was arrested for driving under the influence at the intersection of

Ironbound Road and Monticello Avenue. **8**

— A student was arrested for underage possession of alcohol at the intersection of Alumni Drive and Gooch Drive. **9**

— An individual reported a burglary at the Mule Barn by the Tennis Center. Officers searched the building and found nothing to be missing, but did find empty plastic juice boxes at the scene. Estimated damage to the building is \$85. **10**

— Stenciled graffiti was found on the back of Wren Hall and on power distribution boxes outside of James Blair Hall and Tyler Hall. The Bursar’s Office was also vandalized. The total estimated damage is \$400. **11**

Sunday, Feb. 17 — A student reported that his car had been vandalized over the weekend while parked on Harrison Avenue. The estimated damage to the vehicle is \$150. **12**

— A student reported that they had received tampered mail.

— compiled by Sarah Hays

HONOR COUNCIL ELECTION RESULTS

Class of 2009

Matthew Kenneth Dinan
Will Eaton
Kyle Marie Kearney
Katie McCown
Brandon Jaston Nichols
Ashley Elizabeth Poling
Kelley Nicole Quinn
Jonathan Lloyd Sladky

Class of 2010

Christina Phuong Dang
Rory Alexander Eaton
Chase Percival Hathaway
Jay Jones
Dawson William Lindauere
Kristen Elizabeth Pantazes
Bailey Thomson
Alexandra Lee Whitehead

Class of 2011

Brian Joseph Focarino
Morgan Leigh Furman
Skyler Nicole Halbritter
Maggie McEvoy
William Jay Perkins
John Matthew Pothen
Andrew David Rudd
Justin de Benedictis-Kessner

FALL 2007 HONOR COUNCIL CASES

ALLEGATION	VERDICT	SANCTION
Stealing a large amount of materials and using false identification	Stealing: Not Guilty Lying: Guilty	- Probation through spring 2008 - 40 Hrs of Community Service
Cheating on a multiple choice midterm	Guilty	- Probation through spring 2008 - F in Course
Cheating on a multiple choice exam and lying to a College official	Guilty (both charges)	- Indefinite Suspension through at least spring 2008 - F in Course - Letter of apology
Plagiarism on an assignment	Not Guilty	
Copying a significant amount of a project from another student	Guilty	- Suspension through fall 2007 - Probation through spring 2008
Using unauthorized materials on an exam	Guilty	- Probation through graduation - 50 hrs of Community Service - F on Test - Letter of Apology
Stealing from the College and lying	Guilty (both charges)	- Probation through spring 2008 - Letter of Apology

CW Foundation president steps down from board

By KATIE BORETSKY
Flat Hat Staff Writer

Colin G. Campbell, CEO and president of the Colonial Williamsburg Foundation, is leaving his position as chairman of the Board of Trustees for the CWF. Richard G. Tilghman has been chosen as his successor. Campbell is also looking for his replacement as CEO of the foundation.

Tilghman will be taking the position as chairman of the board immediately. Previously, he had a leadership role as the vice chairman of the board, a position he acquired in 2000. He has been a board member since 1994.

The change in leadership is occurring at an opportune time for Campbell. The celebrations for the 400-year anniversary of Jamestown, including highlights such as a visit from Queen Elizabeth II of England, have ended, allowing for Campbell to exit during a relatively quiet interlude.

“It’s time to have a succession plan in place,” Campbell said in an interview with the Daily Press.

Campbell became the chairman of CWF in 1998, two years before he took on the additional roles of president and CEO. Under his leadership, Colonial Williamsburg added and expanded many of its programs for visitors. The Revolutionary City program, an interactive experience that takes place in the streets and buildings of the historic area, was added to entice people looking for a more personal connection with history.

In 2006, a new conference center was built to allow for larger conventions to occur in Williamsburg. In addition to the conference center, a new spa was built as part of the Colonial Williamsburg resort to offer services to customers who are interested in more than the history of the area.

Campbell explained some of the future goals of CWF to the Daily Press, saying that most of its focus will be on getting visitors to stay longer in Colonial Williamsburg and to spend more money.

“We need to increase revenue from visitation — broadly defined,” Campbell said. “All of the aspects of visitation are im-

portant to increasing revenue.”

Colonial Williamsburg is in the process of recovering from a sharp drop in visitors earlier in the decade. According to figures in the Daily Press, paid visitation dropped from 983,000 visitors in 1998 to 708,000 visitors in 2004. However, due to some of the changes implemented, visitation is climbing again and was up to 780,000 visitors in 2007. Last year was also financially strong for Colonial Williamsburg, allowing CWF to pay back some of its debts from the new buildings.

CWF has formed a committee to help Campbell find a replacement as CEO. The search committee will be comprised of six board members. A consulting firm will also be helping them make their decision on the new CEO.

There is no date set for Campbell to step down as CEO. He plans to stay until an appropriate replacement is selected.

“I made it very clear that I’m here until there’s been a candidate chosen and a reasonable amount of transition,” Campbell said.



FILE PHOTO — THE FLAT HAT
Duke of Gloucester Street in Colonial Williamsburg.

ACLU willing to sue BOV

Rector Powell says Reveley is president designate

ACLU from page 1

public body, following the meeting, reconvenes in open meeting and takes a vote of membership rule, contract, regulation or motion that shall have its substance reasonably identified in the open meeting.”

Based on this law, the ACLU told Student Assembly Senator Matt Beato ’09, who contacted them last week regarding the BOV’s decision, that Reveley is not yet legally president and that the BOV did not have authority to issue a severance package to Nichol.

According to Willis, the point of the lawsuit would not be to uncover information but to take corrective action.

“The problem I see with this is that you would want to see who voted which way, but [the BOV] made it clear it was a unanimous vote,” Willis said.

However, BOV member Robert Blair ’68 announced this Tuesday that he was resigning from the Board, indicating that the decision may not have been unanimous as Powell stated.

“Blair is now able to claim that he supported President Nichol and that Michael Powell misrepresented the “unanimous consensus” that he said existed,” Beato said. “If you have an open vote, that can’t happen. I’m frustrated because I fear BOV members might see an outcry from students and then pretend that they supported Nichol all the way, enabling them to curry favor with stu-

dents and faculty, which they can do if decisions are made in closed sessions.”

Beato sent an e-mail Feb. 14 to other SA representatives to ask what they thought about pursuing the issue.

“I don’t think a lawsuit is a good idea because it would have the effect of removing President Reveley from his office. None of us need that right now,” Beato said. “Nevertheless, I do think that the BOV should have had an open vote. The reason why they did not have an open vote to appoint President Reveley is because they didn’t expect that they would need to appoint him so quickly.”

No other students appear to be pursuing litigation.

“Though some outside organizations have been mentioned at various times over the last week, we are dedicated to focusing our efforts on the future of the College,” said Dave Johnson ’09, SA undersecretary of Public Affairs for Williamsburg and one of those Beato contacted after talking to the ACLU. “This is a time for the students, faculty, staff and alumni of the College to engage in an open conversation about the events of the past weeks and months in order to proceed on solid footing.”

Johnson added that the work to be done regarding this issue will continue for some time.

“I believe that our community still has plenty of concerns that must be addressed, and revisiting the same issues for the next several months is not a productive element of that process,” he said.

SA passes ‘Warning’ Act Bill designed to expunge students’ written warnings

By RUSS ZERBO
Flat Hat Staff Writer

The Student Assembly passed the Reasonable Expunging of Written Warnings Act, the Disambiguate Facebook Act and the Northern Illinois Condolence Act during Tuesday’s meeting. The senate also nominated students to the Review Board and the Elections Commission, voted to send the Green Fee Support Act to the finance committee and heard the Honor Council No Confidence Act.

The Reasonable Expunging of Written Warnings Act, sponsored by Sen. Ben Brown ’11, passed 13-3-4. The bill proposes that students be able to expunge their records of a written warning two semesters after the warning is issued.

Under the current policy students can only expunge their records during their senior year. Some senators said that the bill was unnecessary.

Brown said the policy would be useful for students applying for internships prior to their senior years. The bill ultimately requires the approval of Vice President for Student Affairs Sam Sadler.

The Disambiguate Facebook Act, also sponsored by Brown, passed unanimously and requests that Sadler clarify his policy toward incriminating students using social networking websites such as Facebook. Brown said the current unofficial policy is that social networking websites may be used by students to incriminate other students suspected of involvement in illegal activities.

The Northern Illinois Condolence Act, sponsored by Sen. Brittany Fallon ’11, extends support and sympathies in a letter to be sent to NIU. It passed unanimously.

The Green Fee Support

Act, sponsored by Sen. Caroline Mullis ’09, proposed a \$15 addition to each student’s tuition in order to decrease the College’s energy usage and increase its energy efficiency. If the SA were to pass the bill, it would still need to be passed by the Board of Visitors.

“I don’t feel comfortable asking the BOV to raise our tuition,” Sen. Orlando Watson ’10 said.

Sen. Michael Douglass ’11 was uneasy. “I’m really concerned about [not] doing this ... by referendum,” he said.

Mullis responded by saying that the rise in tuition would save the school money in the long run, but the senate still sent the bill back to the Finance Committee.

The SA also nominated Billy Mutell ’09 to the Review Board and Sens. Matt Skibiak ’08 and Devan Barber ’08 to the Elections Commission.

Sen. Joe Luppino-Esposito ’08 and Douglass presented the Honor Council No Confidence Act which alleges that Tuesday’s Honor Council election violated the body’s own bylaws because advertising for the election began 15 days ahead of time instead of the required 30.

The bill’s sponsors wanted it to be heard as old business but the motion was rejected and will be heard at next week’s meeting.



Kimball Theatre
WILLIAMSBURG, VIRGINIA

Starting Out in the Evening (PG-13)
Fri., Feb. 22-Sun., Feb. 24
6:45 and 8:45 p.m.
Feb. 22-24 screening room (35 seats)

Coming Attraction...

The Virginia Peninsula Jewish Film Festival
On Merchants Square
Bad Faith Not rated
Sat., Feb. 23-Sun., Feb. 24
7 and 8:45 p.m.

Live Performances...

The Kimball Theatre presents
Xiayin Wang in Concert
Fri., Feb. 22 at 8 p.m.
General admission \$20, Seniors/Students \$18

Mrs. Virginia United States 2008 Pageant
Sat., Mar. 1 at 6 p.m.
Tickets will be available on the evening of the Pageant in the Kimball Theatre lobby:
Adults \$30, Children under 12 \$20
(children under 5 are free)

The Williamsburg Symphonia presents
Subscription Concert #3
Tues., Mar. 4 and Wed., Mar. 5 at 8 p.m.
Tickets: \$42, \$30. Advance tickets are available through the Williamsburg Symphonia call (757) 229-9857

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Equal Housing
Opportunity



ALEX HAGLUND — THE FLAT HAT
Protests such as this one, from last Tuesday, have given way to more organized BOV opposition.

Protest groups organize to promote long-term goals

PROTESTS from page 1

According to Rojas, the group’s long-term goals include continued student, faculty, staff and alumni involvement in the presidential search process, keeping students involved in college affairs and dialogue, open communication with the BOV and working with Interim College President Taylor Reveley to promote the best interests of the College.

“Tribe United hopes to help preserve the future of that dialogue and work to make sure it continues over the course of the upcoming months,” Rojas said.

Another student group that mobilized in response to the situation is Students for a Democratic Society. Sean Walsh ’08 and Margaret Smith ’10 said that, although they are members of SDS, they do not speak for the group, but as “concerned students.”

Walsh said that he opposes the BOV’s closed-door decision not to renew Nichol’s contract.

“I personally believe that’s wrong,” he said.

SDS has used this situation to advocate a more open BOV decision-making process in order to

prevent similar situations in the future.

“We really want a more open, democratic process in the way the BOV makes its decisions,” Smith said. “One of the things we’re asking Michael Powell — we’re really excited he’s coming — is to keep an open mind.”

Walsh said that they will formulate a long-term plan after today’s forums, and that they were anxious to hear what Powell and other BOV members have to say.

“We want to hear them out,” Smith said.

One new website, ReplacePowell.com, focuses on BOV Rector Michael Powell. Founder James Rosenthal M.A. ’08 said that he intends for it to be a place for those who want to see Michael Powell removed as BOV rector to organize — maybe.

“This website hasn’t been officially launched, and I hope it never will be,” he said. “If people find Powell’s explanations [at today’s forums] adequate, this website will quietly go away.”

If Powell’s explanation is not adequate, Rosenthal said, ReplacePowell.com will launch and provide a petition and information on contacting government officials.

Alum, now NIU prof, shaken by shootings

SHOOTINGS from page 1

shocking revelation.” He learned that one of his honors students from that class had been a victim.

“I can tell you where she sat, who she sat with,” he said. “I take my honors students to dinner, try to do all the same things my professors did for me. Now this student is gone ... On Valentine’s Day she entered that classroom as a 19-year-old college freshman, full of hopes and dreams, and she never left the classroom alive.”

As students and professors prepare to return to classes Mon-

day, the university has received an outpouring of support from various other universities — Virginia Tech in particular, which sent staff and counselors to aid in NIU’s recovery.

“It’s a terrible fraternity to be in, but it’s nice to know we’re not the only ones,” Bowers said. “They can tell us where we’ll be tomorrow, in a week, in six months.”

In talking and meeting with students this week, Bowers is challenging them to seek solutions in the wake of such tragedy.

“I ask them, ‘What are you going to do? What action will

you take? What does this moment mean for us as a community and as a larger group of humanity? How do we rectify gun culture with a culture of life and liberty?’” he said.

Though he lacks the answers, Bowers hopes to “preserve this moment that we may remember it in the future” — hoping, in particular, that his alma mater will benefit from his story. “I now feel that I must call this to the attention of others,” he said. “And as much as NIU has come to mean to me in my six years here, I would never want William and Mary, my home, to fall victim to this type of event.”



COURTESY PHOTO — NIU MEDIA SERVICES
NIU students sign a wall to commemorate the five students killed by a gunman last Thursday.

BOV coming to campus to meet with faculty, students

BOV from page 1

He said that he had read unprofessional BOV e-mails.

“I have also seen mean-spirited communications that are not worthy of the professional deliberations of any managing board, but most especially not the Board of Visitors of William and Mary.”

Blair said that he originally thought the board had not based the non-renewal decision on ideological reasons, but he expressed uncertainty after some board

members’ responses to Nichol’s resignations.

“Such communications call into question the real motivation for the initial decision not to renew the President’s contract,” he said.

When asked about the e-mails, Ukrop said she did not recall reading any negative comments against Nichol. She said that many board members were upset about the anti-BOV graffiti that appeared on many College buildings last weekend, including the Wren Building.

“I think maybe there got to be some anger last week, especially with the defacing of the Wren building, and maybe tempers flared,” Ukrop said. “I never saw any mean-spirited thing against Nichol.”

Ukrop also said that she was sure the board did not base their decision on politics.

“Our decision was in no way based on ideology,” she said. “We believe in diversity in multiculturalism and access and Gateway ... and we’ll continue to push forward with all of that.”

In his resignation e-mail, Blair praised Nichol for his efforts to increase racial diversity, at the College, and particularly lauded the Gateway William and Mary program, which offers financial

aid to low-income Virginia students.

“Mr. Nichol boldly created and gave Gateway William and Mary its name, funded it through the College’s budget process, and put the program in place. Now some detractors wish to belittle his achievement, and others claim wrongly that it is affirmative action in disguise. I have been assured that students benefiting from Gateway share one common denominator — socio-economic status.”

Blair had served on the board since 2004. He served as junior and senior class president while completing a mathematics degree at the College. He received his J.D. in 1973 from the University of Virginia School of Law. He currently serves as President of Blair Law, PC in Washington D.C.

Presidential Search

In her interview with The Flat Hat, Ukrop also said that the search for the College’s new president will not begin until September, and that Interim President Taylor Reveley has committed to at least a year and half in office.

“I think originally something came out [that] the search process will start immediately, but no it will not, we won’t even start thinking about it until September,” Ukrop said.

Charles Center Summer Scholarships

The Charles Center offers a number of awards to support summer research. Most awards are \$3000 and projects must be for seven full-time weeks of research. To be eligible, applicants must be continuing students (i.e., not graduating seniors) in good academic standing.

Application deadline is Thursday, March 13, at 12 PM

Scholarships include:

Chappell Fellowships support students' collaboration with William and Mary faculty engaged in summer research.

Charles Center Scholarships for International or Domestic Research fund students to do seven weeks of research abroad or in the U.S.

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The J. Edward Grimsley Fellowship for Journalism was created to allow William and Mary undergraduate students to gain practical journalism experience during the summer.

The Jacobs Scholarship supports students' travel to Israel to conduct research, study or service projects.

New in 2008:

The Charles Center will name five **Dintersmith Fellows** who will spend ten full-time weeks over the summer doing preliminary research for their Honors theses. Dintersmith Fellows will receive a \$4000 stipend and up to \$1000 in research funds.

Visit the Scholarship Central website
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STAFF EDITORIAL

Embrace transparency

By all rights, the Board of Visitors shouldn't be on campus today. If former College President Gene Nichol's ouster had been conducted properly, no reason for further inquiry would exist.

The board could have preempted student and faculty questions with a transparent process and a thoughtful explanation. But that didn't happen. While we remain confident that the BOV made the correct decision about Nichol's contract, we worry their process only aggravated what has become a troubling new tradition at the College: high-minded policy-making conducted from behind closed doors.

At the College, well intentioned decisions have too often sparked outrage because of a lack of transparency. Of course, Nichol's decision to move the Wren cross without prior consultation marks the most notorious instance of relatively benign policy changes gone awry. While we did not criticize the cross policy shift itself, we found the apparent secrecy with which it was made disconcerting. The debate that followed would likely have proven more useful before, not after, the fact.

Similarly, the BOV's actions concerning Nichol's contract have left much to be desired. Even if the affair ran by the book, the lack of a clear statement detailing the board's procedures and reasoning after nearly two weeks raises eyebrows — and protests. BOV members' arrival on campus today, however, indicates a commitment to clearing the air. We must remember that these men and women are accomplished and educated. Much is to be expected of them.

We hope today's discussion will ease the process of sifting the personal from the objective. Too many recent developments have surfaced from individual e-mails and correspondences rather than official statements. Robert Blair's '68 resignation from the BOV — although it prompted members to concede their decision may not have been unanimous — raised more questions than it answered. Now is the time for explanation from the BOV that will satisfy anxious members of the community.

Absent a comprehensive report, divining an official position has become a game of journalistic Whack-a-Mole — finding an opinion from one source has ensured another's popping up elsewhere. Whereas BOV Rector Michael Powell '85 said recently the search for a new president had already started, just yesterday, fellow board member Barbara Ukrop '61 thought otherwise. "That will not even begin — we're talking not until next September," she said.

Confusing? We thought so, too. Waffling like this does nothing to instill further confidence, especially on an issue as significant as the selection of our next president. But here again, the BOV has the opportunity to do right by offering an official position on the matter. The past year and a half have proven the value of releasing information for public scrutiny. Better to provide too much than too little.

Certainly a friendly presentation of the facts is preferable to their forcible extraction. The ACLU has offered to challenge the legality of BOV's decision to appoint Taylor Reveley as president designate. Following Nichol's resignation, Reveley was installed as president with a bit or parliamentary finagling. The ACLU contends the move violated Virginia's Freedom of Information Act. Reveley is immensely qualified for the interim, but installing him as president without an official vote opens the BOV to criticism. As is the case with our other items of concern, greater transparency from the outset could have prevented such a situation.

In large part, the ongoing controversy surrounding Nichol's departure should have been avoided. A correct decision has become mired in a procedural morass, but today's sessions provide an opportunity for the College community to find its way. Above all, the event will require openness on both sides so that the community can be satisfied and we can move on as a school.

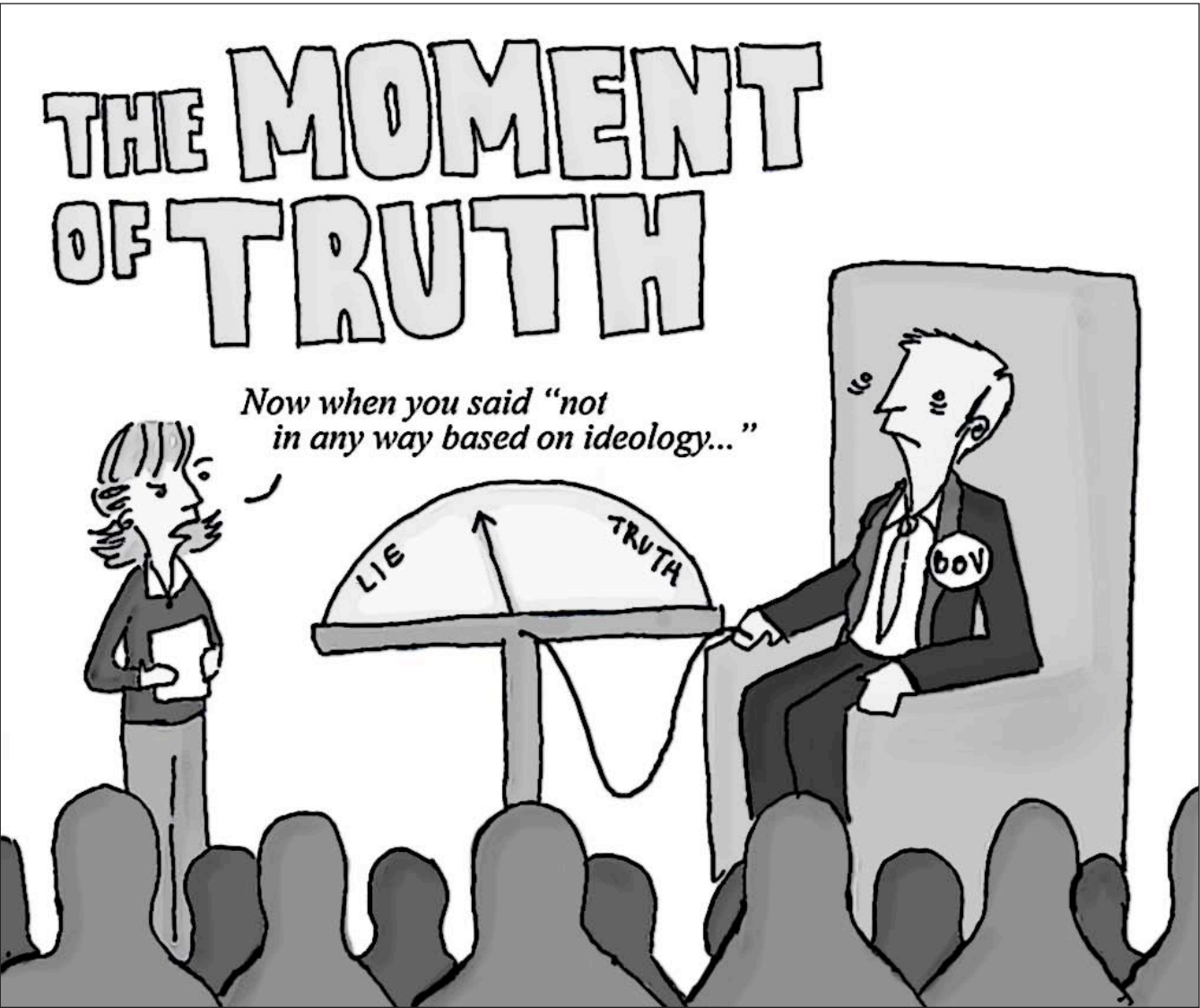
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BY OLIVIA WALCH, FLAT HAT CARTOONIST

A house divided cannot stand

Brett Phillips

FLAT HAT GUEST COLUMNIST



As students and as leaders of our respective campus organizations, we are disappointed by the manner in which the Board of Visitors chose not to renew Gene Nichol as president of the College.

I am joined by Council of Fraternity Affairs chairman Joseph Andrews, Inter-Sorority Council president Laura Sauvain, Class of 2008 president Nick Faulkner, Student Assembly Senate Public Affairs Committee chair Sarah Rojas, VA21 representative of the SA Jesse Woods and Miss Teen Virginia USA 2006 Samantha Casey.

For many students who interacted with Nichol on a daily basis, he stood as a voice representative of our campus, our needs and our progress. He is a man loved by many and criticized by few.

On the day of his resignation, thousands packed the Wren Courtyard in honor of his service. Today, more than 2,000 members belong to a pro-Nichol Facebook group. These examples of resounding student opinion highlight the BOV's utter disconnect with the community it represents.

Nichol was always the students' champion. From his first day on campus, he captivated our community with his charisma, inspiration and unparalleled ability to instill hope and motivation in our student body. A prominent figure on campus, Nichol could often be found pacing the sidelines at athletic contests, hosting lunches and dinners with students and faculty, teaching seminars on constitutional law, delivering acceptance letters to Gateway Program students and leading

the pep band in the Alma Mater. His presidency was one of openness and, for that, he was admired.

From this context of openness, we feel slighted by the BOV. It is our opinion that the BOV did not hear the students' testimonies and neglected to include both our Student Assembly president (an ex-officio member to the BOV) and the student voice in its decision-making. If it had, regardless of the final decision, the College community would not have experienced the fractures of the past two weeks.

We urge future decisions to be transparent and all-inclusive — qualities extolled by Nichol. We call upon students to demand their inclusion in the decision-making process. We look to our own leadership to remember and reinforce why the College is a wonderful place. Our house has been divided and we must work to bring it back together.

As current students, tomorrow's alumni and future donors to the College, we ask for this inclusiveness from our BOV. We look forward to the BOV's visit to campus as one of the first of many, ensuring an open and constant dialogue between every member of the College community. Together, we can continue to work toward a successful future for our beloved institution. Nichol

was more than a figurehead, he was the drumbeat of this Tribe. We were proud to follow his leadership and are committed to carrying out his legacy, together.

Though the loss of Nichol as our president is painful, we welcome Interim President Taylor Reveley with open arms and with great anticipation. His courage in taking on this job at this time is a testament to both his character and that of this institution. In this time of uncertainty, we will look to him and ourselves for stability and stand by him to preserve the College as "great and public."

Go Tribe! And continue to hark upon the gale!

Brett Phillips, co-founder of the Student Chamber of Commerce, is a senior at the College.

Honor Council elections flawed

Cliff Dunn

FLAT HAT GUEST COLUMNIST



I cast a blank ballot in the Honor Council election earlier this week because I did not support the elections held Tuesday.

There are multiple reasons behind this.

First and foremost, the Honor Council has failed to uphold its own bylaws. According to the latest version of the bylaws available on the Honor Council website, it is supposed to begin promoting the election approximately one month prior to the election. The first relevant e-mail that I could find in my inbox (understanding that aside from pure spam I delete almost nothing) is from Feb. 4 (15 days ago).

Additionally, the bylaws presented on the Honor Council website (at least at the time I wrote this column) state that "The Nomination Form is due two (2) weeks after the last information meeting." The final meeting was Feb. 6. Therefore, in order to meet this requirement, the Honor Council would have had to make the forms due the day following the date of elections.

In addition to the form due date not meeting the requirements set out in its bylaws on its website, the Honor Council rejected forms that were turned in within half an hour of the deadline that it provided, in the interest of fairness.

By the rules that the Honor Council has provided for

the public, it has failed to meet its own requirements for the election. Currently, there is a bill before the Student Assembly senate to vote no confidence in the Honor Council elections. Yet, on the Honor Council election ballot, there is no way to voice disgust with the procedures used and, because of the ban on campaigning, there is no way to work to change the system.

The Honor Council has set itself above public accountability. With all of the shouting about accountability in the last week regarding the Board of Visitors' decision not to retain Gene Nichol as president, it sets a sorry precedent when one of the most important organizations at this great school — one with the power of expulsion over students — places itself above public accountability.

It does this both by denying students the ability to fight for changes that they see necessary to the system and by violating its own rules without apparent consequence.

I did not cast a blank ballot against the individuals running, for many of them are fine individuals. I cast

a blank set of ballots against a system that places itself above accountability and reduces a solemn election from an informed decision to a glorified contest of name recognition.

The elections have been so sufficiently mishandled that they are currently facing a vote of no confidence in the senate, something virtually unprecedented in the College's history and a sign of how poorly they have been handled. I sincerely lack confidence in this year's Honor Council elections feeling that the system is deeply flawed.

Cliff Dunn is a junior at the College.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Cronyism stifling rights
To the Editor:

During my time at the College, I was part of a small but vocal activist community that strived to raise awareness of pressing global and local issues. I worked with others to fight against injustices and the suffocating traditionalism that was stifling cultural diversity and equality on campus. When elected Student Assembly president in 2002, I attempted to address many issues that were dividing this community, but found these efforts consistently blocked by an autocratic administration hiding behind a code of silence.

During my tenure, no issue was more decisive and controversial than the Board of Visitors' surreptitious appointment of Henry Kissinger as chancellor. This appointment became a catalyst for students, faculty and alumni to rally against the lack of transparency within the BOV. Kissinger's commission was just another example of the cronyism that infests some members of the BOV (under the contentious leadership of Rector Michael Powell '85) and the General Assembly. For these reasons, I welcomed the appointment of Gene Nichol as president, seeing it as a sign of progress in combating the College's disturbing trend to conservative homogeneous elitism.

Five years after my graduation, the unexplained dismissal of Nichol has once again united students, faculty and alumni against the BOV's equivocal behavior.

Before pursuing graduate studies in journalism, I spent nearly four years in the Army with the First Brigade Combat Team, 101st Airborne Division, with a year-long deployment to Iraq. I saw firsthand the death and destruction caused by individuals and organizations corrupted by money and power.

It was a slap in the face to return from combat, where I fought to establish democracy in a country that had been oppressed by a tyrannical regime, and see members of the College community fighting for those same rights. It is ironic that the College, which helped give birth to the Constitution, is now attempting to deny those liberties to its own population.

I charge members of the BOV, the General Assembly and Gov. Tim Kaine to provide answers and redress for the unjust dismissal of Nichol and the continued furtive actions of the BOV. A public university is just that: public. It belongs to the people. Students, alumni and residents of Virginia deserve to know why their tuition money, donations and tax dollars appear to be aiding in the oppression of constitutional rights.

— Lindsay Rousseau Burnett '03

VARIETY

CONFUSION CORNER

True Life: My hips don't lie

Charlotte Savino

FLAT HAT COLUMNIST



I'm going to confess to you all something terrible, horrible and totally taboo. I weigh 150 pounds and am a mere 5'3" tall. My Body Mass Index is 26.1, one point over the upper "normal" limit. I am, according to all quick algorithms, overweight.

Body Mass calculations are tricky. They don't take into consideration bone, muscle and fat ratios, overall health or waist measurements. Still, there's something disconcerting about seeing a mathematical calculation, pseudo-scientific fact that I am ... fat.

I started broadcasting my weight after I — in some weird Rec Center peer pressure move — signed up for the intramural weightlifting competition. I realized, with much horror, that I was one class away from "heavyweight." Talk about a confidence booster. I didn't end up competing, and I never even told the IM officials my weight, but having to face that reality blew apart all of my number fears.

This column is not about Tyra Banks' "So What?" campaign. It is not about wearing my weight in a (very unflattering) bathing suit. I've just found that in the last two weeks or so, I've had weight on my mind. "America's Next Top Model" started this week followed by the totally feminist "Pussycat Dolls Present: Girlriscious." Welcome to weight-loss Wednesday nights.

Now that I've finally become comfortable with my girth, the first thing everyone tells me is how they simply don't believe it. It's okay, guys, I know. I'm pretty solid. And I will happily step on any scale to prove to you my massiveness.

Mostly, the girls say something like, "You don't look like you weigh that much at all!" and the guys simply say "So?" Though I understand that this obsession with weight is totally in my own head, this time of year puts a major emphasis on thinness.

As spring break approaches, Pilates classes are growing and crash diets abound. Campus Awareness Regarding Eating Smart is hosting an informational event about how crash diets are harmful, but with all signs pointing to fat, even the most hazardous methods for weight loss are tempting.

I logged on to a fitness magazine website to find what they cleverly market as my "happy weight" and found that what would really make me happy requires losing 23 pounds. I think that would make me cranky, skeletal and saggy. Though I suppose Rachel Zoe made a whole career out of that.

Let's be real: I enjoy food, an occasional cocktail and having a life outside the gym (more or less). While I teach five fitness classes a week, I balance my life with, say, two Grasshoppers at the Leafe to celebrate a friend's birthday. Mine is hardly a life of deprivation.

But at 150 pounds, maybe it should be.

Thank goodness I'm not going to some herp-ified spring break locale where I'd wear nothing but bikinis and wet T-shirts. I can't imagine the damage that would do to my already fragile body image. Nonetheless, the thought of going to Austin, Tex. — one of the eating capitals of the country — to visit my best friend is stressing me.

When I look back at my weight history, I was at my adult-thinnest for prom, weighing a still-hefty 143 pounds, due to the fact that for a month or so all I ate for dinner was half a head of lettuce with dressing (a tip I picked up from that body builder dude on "True Life: I'm on a Diet"). My hips protruded, I went down a bra size, and I thought I looked absolutely fabulous. But even writing down what I had to do to maintain this figure makes me sick. Nobody should take any kind of life advice from an MTV "True Life" episode.

Of course, I've done more terrible things to myself to lose weight as well, running the gamut from diet pills to liquid fasts. I've never been as crazy as I was in those days: I experienced heart palpitations, dizzy spells and even worse cattiness than my everyday baseline. None of that is worth the seven pounds that separate me from my weight four years ago.

So, essentially, this "happy weight" nonsense is baloney (nonfat, organic, hormone free or whatever). My roommate thinks so, my boyfriend thinks so and, if you ever want to be my friend, you'll think so too.

That being said, I hear that ranting burns a ton of calories.

Charlotte Savino is a Confusion Corner corner columnist. She wants her MTV.



Engaged & Underage

They haven't chosen their majors, but they've chosen their spouses

By MEGAN DOYLE

Flat Hat Staff Writer

They met as blind senior prom dates, at a colonial dancing competition and in eighth grade gym class. They've sacrificed time and money to make long distance treks between schools or as far as an Army base in Bamberg, Germany. They've even sacrificed family and religion. Yet they aren't the pregnant bridezillas and discouraged high school dropouts that MTV's "Engaged and Underage" advertise.

The only common factor for engaged and married students at the College seems to be that each of their relationships has been tested by long distance, and each are looking to the future with a level-headed preparedness. While others haven't yet chosen their majors, these ring-clad students know where they want to start their families.

Yet young engagement seems to be a taboo fed by shotgun weddings and the immediate connotation of the words "divorce rate."

"I think it is more of a problem with society," Faith Bland '08 said. "I have a problem with Oprah because she insists that women should get everything that they want. I think you should have to work for the good things in your life, especially relationships."

Faith met her husband, Paul Bland '08 at a community college in Fredericksburg through their common hobby of colonial dancing. Paul transferred to the College first and, as Faith said, "If you're going to follow your boyfriend to a school, you can't do better than William and Mary."

The two were engaged in July 2006 after dating for almost two years. They were married one year later in Wren Chapel. "I've got to admit, I kind of bugged him about [getting married]," Faith said. "I felt it was the natural progression for the relationship. We were not sure if financially we were ready — but that alone is not a good enough reason [to wait]."

Their parents' responses to the decision were bipolar. Faith's parents were supportive. She believes her rational approach to the relationship helped her parents see that she was approaching the situation with maturity. "I tried to keep a very realistic view about it and recognize the problems," Faith said.

Paul's family received the news with criticism that young marriages often fail. Though Paul's mother married at age 18, she was still hesitant. "I think I'm on a different level with them," Paul said. "I'm not their little boy anymore."

While most friends were very supportive of the engagement, some people received the couple's decision to marry in college with surprise and wariness. "Sometimes I sense it is a little weird for them," Faith said. "I am tied down; that's the path I've chosen. We were just the first. We were the trendsetters." The trend seems to have caught on — two of Faith's four bridesmaids have set the dates for their own weddings.

Both were each other's first serious relationship, but they do not believe that they were too young. Among other reasons, the time was right with regards to their conservative religious views, the couple said. "I personally feel it was the right decision. On many levels it is actually much more convenient and less expensive. We save on rent, food, car insurance and even share some books," Faith said.

Despite the Wren Chapel's year-long waiting list, the couple obtained a Wren wedding at an opportune time, almost exactly one year after their engagement. For \$500 the couple received a strict two-hour time slot in the Chapel. Friends provided choral and string musical accompaniment free of charge, and other friends helped reduce catering costs.

Marriage was right for the Blands financially as well as because of their religious, but both have proven to be an obstacle to Chase Albert '10 and Rachel Brown '10. While marriage is in some ways an acceptance of preparedness to make sacrifices, the couple discarded family and religious beliefs for their relationship.

The two met first semester of their freshman year of college and were engaged just a few months later in the spring. When summer sent Brown home to California and Albert to Northern Virginia, the couple faced telling their parents about their engagement.

Brown did not tell her family for several months. Her parents did not agree with the relationship, which, along with her overall college experience, had prompted her to question many things, including her Christian upbringing.

"When I started acting like I was questioning, many of my Christian friends started treating me with this arms-length cautiousness — like they could catch what I had by hanging out with me too much," Brown said. "One of the factors that played into the poor treatment I got from my Christian friends was how serious Chase and my relationship was, which they considered un-Christian. I would say that going through the very traumatic experience of deconversion together definitely built a stronger bond."

In reaction to her parents' strong disapproval, Brown moved across the country to Northern Virginia, where she now works as she takes a year off from school to save money. She now considers herself to be agnostic. Albert began questioning his religious views before he came to college. "I don't have a religion," Albert said. "I sometimes say 'anti-theist,' but I don't have any real meaning for that. I don't classify myself as an atheist, because that's just the sort of lumping I was trying to get rid of when I deconverted."

Though Brown's family was concerned about



her engagement because she is young, her religious decision to disaffiliate was devastating for her parents. "My family considers me a prodigal, and they pray every day that I'll go back to Christianity," Brown said. Albert's family also reacted with initial surprise, but they have welcomed Brown into their family.

For Albert, age was never a concern. "I have never felt too young," he said. "I kind of thought it a silly consideration to make — statistically, a marriage this early is doomed. I don't know. I knew I wanted to spend the rest of my life with Rachel. And I hate that cliché."

Brown plans to return to the College this fall. She is applying for in-state and independent status with the university. The couple would like to get married in April of their graduation year. "We can't really get married before then because of financial aid reasons," Brown said. "If not for that, we'd definitely already be married."

For Brown and Albert's cross-country relationship, distance was the least of their problems. Their brief courtship pales in comparison to the relationship of Kristina Forero-Hordusky '11 and Matthew Smith, a freshman at Virginia Commonwealth University.

"The whole time I was dating [Matthew], I didn't think, 'He's the one, he's the one,'" Forero-Hordusky, who met her boyfriend in eighth grade gym class, said. The two have been together since freshman year of high school.

"The looming idea of college made us realize how close the future is," she said. Her fiance proposed the summer before their freshman year of college. "It really wasn't even a thought that we would go to the same school," Forero-Hordusky said. "It's hard, but, I mean, we understand that we have time. If we can last four years, what's another four?"

The couple plans to wait at least a year after college to marry. Forero-Hordusky's mother married young and divorced. "It definitely made me realize that I don't want to go out and rush things," Forero-Hordusky said. "College really does change people." Forero-Hordusky said most people are pleasantly surprised to hear she is engaged, which she attributes to the fact that the couple plans to put off marriage until after school. "That's the weird thing — no one has told me, 'You're crazy,'" she said.

Forero-Hordusky will face three more years of separation from her fiance by a 40-minute car ride. For Jared Calfee '10 and Alicia Glorfield '10, commuting didn't work. As freshmen, Calfee attended Coastal Carolina University in Myrtle Beach, S.C. and Glorfield attended Emory University in Atlanta. They were separated by a six-hour commute that defined their freshman year relationship.

Both transferred to the College in the fall of 2007. Calfee and Glorfield met while in high school and got engaged just a few months later with plans to wait until after college to marry for financial reasons. "Our parents have said 'Once you are married, you're on your own,'" Glorfield said.

Calfee and Glorfield attended different high schools in Richmond and were set up as blind dates from senior prom by mutual friends. Though they got engaged just a few months after prom night, Glorfield said, "We both know what it's like to date others, which has been a good frame of reference for our relationship."

The speedy engagement was received with shock by their parents, particularly their mothers. "The first thing they said was 'You're going to wait until after school, right?'" Glorfield said.

Despite their parents' reactions, the couple knew what they wanted. "It was something we both felt we were ready for," Calfee said. "The weirdest part was just telling others — we already knew it was what we wanted. Only you can know if it's right for you."

Their one-year apart during freshman year of



TOP COURTESY FAITH BLAND; ALL OTHER PHOTOS BY SPENCER ATKINSON — THE FLAT HAT

BEHIND CLOSED DOORS

Sex can wait, masturbate

Maya Horowitz
FLAT HAT SEX COLUMNIST



I remember thinking in elementary school that I was the only one of my friends without a dog. It didn't help that every time I would go to one of their houses, I would see their dog, play with their dog, hear them talk about their dog and end up with their dog's hair all over me. This happened to me so many times that I decided I had to have a pet of my own. Maybe you had a similar experience with Nintendo 64 or baby brothers or even growing armpit hair.

Every time the subject of pets came up, I felt left out. No one wants to feel that way, especially when something seems not only awesome, but omnipresent. But not everyone is ready for a dog and sometimes what you'd hoped for isn't what you get. Baby brothers are really cute, but what about the fact that now Mom spends all of her time with him?

I think you can see where I'm going with this. Let's just acknowledge the elephant in the room so we can all breathe a little easier.

Sex is, well, sexy. Our society — especially as seen through the media — places a huge amount of emphasis on the romance of sex. As foot soldiers of American pop culture, teenagers and young adults take up the call of sex and discuss it ad nauseam. Games like "Never Have I Ever" and strip poker reinforce the idea that intercourse is omnipresent.

It is therefore extraordinarily easy to fall into the trap of thinking that everyone is having sex. According to the Guttmacher Institute, only 46 percent of all American 15- to 19-year-olds have had sex — defined as vaginal intercourse — at least once. That means that about half of the teenagers coming into college are still virgins. Even though this data does not account for traditional definitions of virginity in the gay community, it is probably still safe to say that a large



percentage of homosexual college freshmen are virgins as well. (Cue: Michael Jackson's "You Are Not Alone.")

And yet, when you're the virgin, it feels like you're the odd man out. This can be for many reasons, but usually for just one: In most circles, it's just not sexy to talk about abstinence. Why talk about flaccid penises and intact hymens when there's an orgasmic world of excitement out there?

Before I break down this idea, let's get one thing straight: Sex can be awesome. It can bring a couple together, spice up a friendship or just relieve some stress. If someone is ready to have sex, I say go for it. It's a feeling unlike anything else and I am in full support of good, old-fashioned fornication.

But sex is not for everyone. And even if it were, that doesn't necessarily mean that you have to lose your virginity right now. I won't get into reasons not to have sex here; we all know them by now: STIs and tigers and bears, oh my! But even if your decision is to wait, it is still important to get in touch with your sexuality right now.

Just like learning to control your anger or exercise your mind, sexuality is an essential element to our humanity. Despite the taboos imposed by culture, sexuality is normal and healthy. Exploring your sexuality is necessary in order to fully understand yourself. The trap that we fall into is in thinking that sex is the only way to explore your sexuality.

Most obviously, you can masturbate. Not only does this get you touching your body and discovering what you like physically, it can also exercise your imagination and teach you what fantasies work for you. Although it can be a little messy and you may develop carpal tunnel syndrome, masturbation is a time-tested method of exploring your sexuality.

But masturbation is not the only way. You can watch other people have sex (not live, unless you get consent), discuss sexuality with your friends, or just take a moment to look at yourself naked while you're in the shower. If all of this is too risque for you, there are still more ways to explore. Writing a steamy story or drawing a lusty picture can do wonders. Just find something. Do not shrink away from this task; it is not something that can be avoided forever.

People who are already sexually active can also employ these methods. Taking a little time to love yourself and understand what gets your juices flowing (even if this a remedial class), can remind you of just how beautiful your body is. And that's the entire meaning behind exploring your sexuality: to help you understand and appreciate who you are.

But why am I still talking? And why are you still reading? Put down the paper and get to work.

Maya Horowitz is the sex columnist. She doesn't mind a remedial class here and there.

Engaged and underage

ENGAGED from page 6

college strengthened their relationship. "You have to let the other person know you are completely there," Glorfield said, which she says the couple achieved through good communication. Long distance also required time and energy to visit and maintain the relationship over the phone. "You should never feel that you are sacrificing anything," said Calfee.

Ashley Bateman '08 and her husband understand the benefits good communication, and know a thing or two about sacrifice. Communication via telephone is Ashley's main experience of married life. Her husband Jonas Bateman, a 2006 graduate of James Madison University, is currently serving in the Army in Afghanistan. He gets up at 5 a.m. to call his wife every morning before work.

Ashley met Jonas at a New Year's Eve party that neither planned to attend. Despite their chance meeting, they pushed the limits of superstition and got engaged on Friday the 13th on the Crim Dell bridge in April 2007.

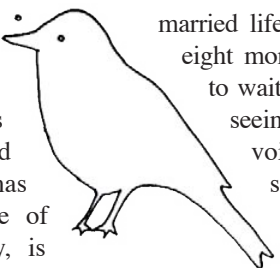
The couple dated long distance between JMU and the College; the distance increased when Jonas was stationed in Germany. They had been talking about marriage for a while before he proposed. "I always said I would never get married in college," Ashley said. "We always knew he'd be deployed and go to Germany. We kind of got serious fast. It's very serious now being in the Army — they are working 16- to

18-hour days and need to know they have complete support."

The couple was married this past January, when Jonas was able to return briefly from his current deployment in Afghanistan where he works in transportation as a first lieutenant. "Afghanistan is much less developed," Ashley said. "If he were in Iraq, he would be able to contact me more." Though there may be more technological obstacles in Afghanistan, she is happy the area is a little safer than Iraq.

"I haven't really gotten to experience married life yet," Ashley said. "I went eight months before and now I have to wait another six months without seeing him — only hearing his voice over the phone," she said. After Ashley graduates, she will move to Germany where Jonas will continue to serve after returning from Afghanistan. "The next few years we will have to sacrifice where we want to live to help make sure that he doesn't get deployed again. Luckily, by the time he's done, I'll only be 26," she said. The years she has ahead as an Army wife will influence their decision on when to have children since it will determine where they will live.

While some couples are ready to make such a sacrifice, it isn't the right move for everyone. "Make sure it's something that you really want if you are going to sacrifice for it," Ashley said. "I know it is important to have your own life, but I don't regret anything that I might have missed out on. College doesn't seem that flexible, but it is. You have space and you have time."



COURTESY PHOTO — FAITH BLAND; BIRD GRAPHICS BY OLIVIA WALCH — THE FLAT HAT

HOROSCOPES

Aquarius: Jan. 20 - Feb. 18



You'll be amused when your classmate is named Oliver Twist, but it will be weird when you discover you both have a friend named David Copperfield.

Pisces: Feb. 19 - March 20



You knew you were allergic to gluten, wheat, peanuts, soy, penicillin, shellfish, eggs and cashews, but who would have thought Backstreet Boys CDs?

Aries: March 21 - April 19



You will find your neighbors even more mysterious this week when you see 13 men wearing only wet boxer-briefs tiptoe out of their rooms at 6 a.m.

Taurus: April 20 - May 20



Tuesday will find you in a tropical mood, which is fortunate considering that, after you are crushed by a crate of pineapples, parrots will pick at your liver.

Gemini: May 21 - June 21



You will be horrified when you find your stall is out of toilet paper. Fortunately, someone left a copy of a conservative campus newspaper in there.

Cancer: June 22 - July 22



You've heard of people speaking from beyond the grave, but you will be surprised when your great grandmother gets her own AIM screen name. Lolz.

Leo: July 23 - Aug. 22



Surprise will be yours when you discover, completely by accident, that Washington Hall has been outfitted with brand new bidets.

Virgo: Aug. 23 - Sept. 22



Your roommate will strangle you this week when you put the theme song to NOVA on repeat because you find it inspirational.

Libra: Sept. 23 - Oct. 22



Your friends describe you as a kind-hearted individual, but you'll put your foot down when all those Hasidic Jews make your room into their hangout.

Scorpio: Oct. 23 - Nov. 21



At lunch this Thursday, you will suddenly feel more sympathetic to the woman who found a finger in her chili at Wendy's.

Sagittarius: Nov. 22 - Dec. 21



This Saturday night you will briefly panic and think you are trapped in an existentialist play, but it will turn out you're just as drunk as a skunk.

Capricorn: Dec. 22 - Jan. 19



Evil people like Lord Voldemort can take the form of someone you love, so be careful when anyone loves you.

-by Alex Guillén

Special Opportunities

from the Charles Center:

Sizemore Fellowship for Graduate Study in Journalism

This fellowship has been created through the generosity of William & Mary alumni Mason and Connie Sizemore. Applicants must be graduating seniors who plan to enroll in a graduate school of journalism in the fall of 2008. The recipient will be given a \$9,000 award.

For more information see: www.wm.edu/scholarships/sizemore.php

UK Teaching Awards

These are paid teaching opportunities for graduating seniors at the Lord Wandsworth College and the Royal Hospital School.

Applications for 2008-09 positions will be due on March 20, 2008. There will be an information session before spring break — watch for details.

Find out more at: www.wm.edu/scholarships/ukteaching.php

Center for the Study of the Presidency

Presidential Fellows Program

This unique non-resident program offers 85 select undergraduate and graduate students from leading colleges and universities a year-long opportunity to study the U.S. Presidency, the public policymaking process, and our Chief Executive's relations with Congress, allies, the media, and the American public.

The College will name one Presidential Fellow in 2008. To be considered, current sophomores and juniors must apply by 12 noon on Wednesday, March 26.

Interested? Then visit: www.wm.edu/scholarships/studyofpresidency.php

Charles Center Peer Scholarship Advisors

Want to get a head start on scholarship applications? Meet with a Charles Center Peer Scholarship Advisor (PSA)!

PSAs hold weekly office hours in the Charles Center and are also available for consultation by appointment.

Visit Scholarship Central for all the details:

www.wm.edu/scholarships

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hard

Directions: Fill in the blank squares so that each row, each column and each 3-by-3 block contain all of the digits 1 through 9. Each puzzle can be solved purely with logic and requires no guessing or math skills.

REVIEWS

And the Oscar goes to ...

One writer gives us her predicted Oscar winners, preferred winners and a few notable snubs

By LIZ PEDRAJA
The Flat Hat

Because I am an awards show junkie, this has been a particularly turbulent year for me. Once the Golden Globes were canceled, I prayed every night that the writers’ strike would end in time for the highlight of the awards season: the Academy Awards. Thankfully, my prayers were answered and, in two days, I can sit in front of the television, with my Entertainment Weekly Oscar prediction sheet in hand, eagerly awaiting to see if my favorites go home with a golden statue.

While I hope that my favorites come out on top, when will that ever be the case? Therefore, I’ve compiled two lists, the first of which I think will win and the second of which I not-so-secretly want to take home the prize.

Best Picture: This awards season is looking like a sweep for “No Country for Old Men.” It contains what are arguably the best acting performances of this year, which is why it was no surprise that it won several

Screen Actors Guild awards.Still, “Michael Clayton” has a fairly good shot; after all, it is the only film to score multiple nominations for acting. It also has the biggest publicity tool of the five Best Picture nomi-

FLAT HAT OSCAR PICKS

	Best Picture	Best Director	Best Actor	Best Actress
Andy Zahn Editor-in-Chief	“No Country for Old Men”	Ethan and Joel Coen	Daniel Day-Lewis	Julie Christie
Ashley Baird Managing Editor	“There Will Be Blood”	Ethan and Joel Coen	Daniel Day-Lewis	Laura Linney
Chase Johnson Executive Editor	“There Will Be Blood”	Ethan and Joel Coen	Daniel Day-Lewis	Ellen Page
News Editor Brian Mahoney	“There Will Be Blood”	Paul Thomas Anderson	Daniel Day-Lewis	Cate Blanchett
Austin Wright News Editor	“No Country for Old Men”	Ethan and Joel Coen	Daniel Day-Lewis	Ellen Page
Alice Hahn Variety Editor	“No Country for Old Men”	Ethan and Joel Coen	Daniel Day-Lewis	Julie Christie
Jeff Dooley Sports Editor	“No Country for Old Men”	Ethan and Joel Coen	Daniel Day-Lewis	Ellen Page
Conor McKay Reviews Editor	“No Country for Old Men”	Ethan and Joel Coen	Daniel Day-Lewis	Julie Christie
Joe Kane Opinions Editor	“There Will Be Blood”	Ethan and Joel Coen	Daniel Day-Lewis	Ellen Page

nees: George Clooney. “Atonement” is the kind of movie the Academy usually goes for — a period piece, beautiful cinematography, a timeless story — yet its chances to win are marred by the lack of a Best Director nomination for Joe Wright. “There

Will Be Blood” is certainly garnering lots of Academy interest, but critics either love it or hate it — there’s little middle ground.

The biggest surprise in the category is “Juno” — the “little movie that could.” Not only is it the highest grossing among all the Best Picture noms (which is really saying something for a Fox Searchlight film), but

it’s also the only feel-good film of the bunch. But the Academy rarely awards the prize to comedies, making it a dark horse candidate.

Predicted: “No Country for Old Men”

Preferred: “Juno”

Best Director: “No Country for Old Men” seems to be one of the best shots the Coen brothers have had at winning for their joint direction. While both Jason Reitman (“Juno”) and Tony Gilroy (“Michael Clayton”) delivered brilliant productions, neither can match the impact of the remaining directors.

“There Will Be Blood” director Paul Thomas Anderson has a good shot, but the film pales in comparison to ‘No Country.’ Julian Schnabel of “The Diving Bell and the Butterfly” is the closest contender to the Coen brothers, but his film was not nominated for Best Picture, and no director has won for an unnominated film since 1929.

Predicted and Preferred: Ethan and Joel Coen, “No Country for Old Men.”

Best Actor: While Johnny Depp’s performance in “Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street” was entertaining and mesmerizing, it was not at the emotional level as that of the other candidates. In “Eastern Promises,” Viggo Mortensen delivered a performance so convincing and so challenging that

See OSCAR page 9

Raveonettes drag with third LP ‘Lust Lust Lust’

By DAN IRISH
The Flat Hat

With its blend of sugary melodies and garage fuzz, Danish group The Raveonettes pays homage to ‘60s girl group The Ronettes and alternative pioneers Sonic Youth.



COURTESY PHOTO — FIERCE PANDA

However, the duo’s latest release, cheekily titled “Lust Lust Lust,” fails to find that middle ground between sweet and somber that characterized its previous albums.

Gone are the covers like “My Boyfriend’s Back” (from 2005’s “Pretty in Black”) that gave the Raveonettes’ previous work a boost of happy energy. The only bouncy tracks, “You Want the Candy” and “Blitzed,” carry a certain amount of sarcasm with their sass.

In ‘Candy,’ Sharin Foo and Sune Rose Wagner allude to the titular sin when they coo, “Black lollipops / Come on give me a dirty treat.”

“Dead Sound” is easily the album’s best track. Far from death, the song jumps from the speakers in a haze of bass and drums. “I know you go through a million girls / And try to pick what’s right,” sings Wagner as

a strangled, Springsteen-esque solo plays behind a wall of distortion.

As multi-instrumentalist Wagner and bassist Foo share vocal duties on most tracks, it’s often hard to tell exactly who is singing; when paired with Foo’s airy pipes, Wagner’s near-falsetto coalesces into one voice. The production only makes it worse, putting far too little emphasis on the vocal lines.

A discordant explosion opens nearly every song on the album, as if it’s being played through old boombox speakers. The band sticks to simple, three-chord songs, which prove to be both a gift and curse when put through this washed-out treatment.

This repetition grows more grating as the album progresses.

See RAVEONETTES page 9



COURTESY PHOTO — OWENFEGAN.COM
The Raveonettes,featuring Danish duo Sharin Foo (LEFT) and Sune Rose Wagner, released its third full-length LP “Lust Lust Lust” this past Tuesday.

Shakespeare in the Dark’s ‘Rosencrantz and Guildenstern’ offers humor, wit

By BETH SUTHERLAND
Flat Hat Staff Writer

A play about existential angst and a paralysis of the will, Tom Stoppard’s absurdist “Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are Dead” presents a number of difficulties for those ambitious enough to produce it.

With the exception of one purposefully self-conscious action sequence (and believe me, you can’t miss it), the play relies almost exclusively on witty banter and hyper-intellectual monologues. Such a play presents three major hurdles: an enormous number of lines to memorize, the need for innovative blocking and a meaningful and easily apprehensible translation of the chilly, metaphysical humor. Fortunately for Stoppard, Shakespeare in the Dark, a student run theatre group of the College, has once again risen to the occasion.

Director Allison Schaeffer ’09 and Assistant Director Mike Mott ’08 vivify Stoppard’s words in their brilliant production of ‘R&G.’ Their wonderfully creative staging comes to life with Zan Gillies ’09 as Rosencrantz and Molly Marie Fitzhugh ’11 as Guildenstern. Though the characters spend most of the time pondering their own inactivity, Gillies and Fitzhugh never indulge in a boring moment. They possess an endlessly entertaining chemistry.

Gillies acts with a disarming nonchalance that makes him both believable and hilarious. He plays Costello to Guildenstern’s Abbott. Rosencrantz is the master of understatement, and Gillies’ performance skillfully highlights the child-like nature of the character.

A perfect foil to his character is Fitzhugh’s Guildenstern. Her vivacity beautifully illustrates her character’s insatiable curiosity and mounting desperation. Not to trivialize

her magnificent performance, but at least equally impressive is her ability to fluidly deliver of an obscene amount of lines. Often Guildenstern engages in lengthy monologues about the nature of reality and other such philosophical topics.

Stoppard’s prose is difficult in a way similar to Shakespeare’s; the density of the language and intricacy of expression demand a clever performer and keen delivery. The viewer may not understand why the pair lobs questions back and forth in a sort of competition, but the volley is done with such energy — with such cognizance of the words — that its meaning is certainly conveyed. Fitzhugh’s relentless energy absolutely carries the heavy language, emphasizing the humor in ‘R&G.’

Of course, skillful delivery alone cannot make a play interesting. Schaeffer and

See ‘R&G’ page 9



COURTESY PHOTO — KATHERINE GOULDE
Shakespeare in the Dark put on Tom Stoppard’s “Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are Dead” this week in the UC Commonwealth. Here, Justin Vasquez plays a scene as Hamlet on the show’s bare stage.

Coming Attractions

— compiled by Kasi Kangarloo

MOVIES



“Vantage Point” (Sony Pictures)
A botched assassination of the president is witnessed by eight different bystanders, though each can only partially identify the culprits. What follows are some serious car chases and gun fights, as some serious actors (Matthew Fox, Dennis Quaid) piece the puzzle together. **Feb. 22**



“Be Kind Rewind” (New Line Cinema)
Jack Black stars in this unusual comedy about a disgruntled junkyard worker who inadvertently magnetizes his brain. After destroying all the tapes at a rental store, he decides to recreate a number of films, including “The Lion King” and “Ghostbusters.” Black at his best. **Feb. 22**



“Charlie Bartlett” (MGM Studios)
The story of a troublesome private school student forced to attend a shabby public school. After a number of deserved beatings, he decides to play psychiatrist and help other students through their problems, not knowing that several heart-warming life lessons lie in store. **Feb. 22**

ALBUMS




Janet Jackson — “Discipline” (Island)
The tenth full-length LP from Janet Jackson, “Discipline,” promises more of the same dance-pop that’s been churned out time and again since the ’80s. Performers like Missy Elliot and Ne-Yo make appearances, and there’s even a Daft Punk sample in “So Much Betta.” **Feb. 26**




Goldfrapp — “Seventh Tree” (Mut)
The British electronic duo Goldfrapp shows off a more sensual side with its fourth full-length LP, “Seventh Tree,” featuring a slew of morose, mellow tunes that use more ambience than dance-beats, moving further away from the dance-pop focus of previous releases. **Feb. 26**


HOLLYWOOD GOSSIP




Playboy valentine
For George Clooney’s girlfriend, this was one fine Valentine’s Day. Sarah Larson, the object of Clooney’s affection, accompanied the star on a whirlwind weekend in Las Vegas. The couple stayed at the Hugh Hefner Sky Villa in the Playboy Tower. Fit for three kings, the villa boasts an indoor waterfall and ceiling mirrors above a round, rotating bed. Sounds like a big night for the 27-year-old cocktail waitress.



All in the family
Michael Bolton found someone to love — this time, a bitchy blonde whom his daughters hate. The soul provider and current girlfriend Nicollette Sheridan are on the rocks because of the desperate housewife’s strained relationship with his three adult daughters. Recently on holiday in the Caribbean, Bolton and Sheridan stayed on St. Barts while the girls fled to St. Maarten.



Candle in the wind
Sunday night, Oscars-goers will emerge from the show to find an empty sky. After all the drama surrounding the writers’ strike, many major parties have been cancelled. Traditional big-name galas, including the Vanity Fair and Entertainment Weekly bashes, were cancelled weeks ago to avoid crossing picket lines. A single man of any importance — Elton John — is hosting a West Coast gala this year.



She’s still no good
Oh, Amy — we know you’re no good, but do you have to make it so obvious? Singer Amy Winehouse has been supplying her jailed husband with autographed portraits to trade for heroine. According to the singer, she had no idea that Blake — recently released from rehab — was exploiting her for drugs. Mistaking prison for WWI-era trenches, she thought he was only trying to obtain cigarettes.
— by Alice Hahn

Coen brothers, Day-Lewis, Christie among Oscar hopefuls

OSCAR from page 8

few would have taken it on. Unfortunately, the movie only received one nod, so Mortensen’s chances aren’t great.

“In the Valley of Elah” was a box-office flop, which makes Tommy Lee Jones’s depiction of a missing soldier’s grieving father go unnoticed, yet he may pick up votes thanks to his work in “No Country for Old Men.”

The race seems to boil down to two contenders: George Clooney in “Michael Clayton” and Daniel Day-Lewis in “There Will Be Blood.” Day-Lewis has garnered the most credence and hype, winning every award on the road to the Oscars. The Academy typically looks more toward the over-the-top roles, putting Clooney’s controlled performance at a disadvantage.

Predicted: Daniel Day-Lewis in “There Will Be Blood”
Preferred: George Clooney in “Michael Clayton”

Best Actress:
This race has three major contenders.

While Cate Blanchett gave a commanding performance as the Virgin Queen, her performance was one of the few redeeming qualities of “Elizabeth: The Golden Age.” Likewise, Laura Linney in “The Savages” is seen as the dark

horse candidate; she entered the race much later than the other contenders and is in a small, limited release film. Sadly, “Savages” and Linney were ignored by most of the other awards shows. Marion Cotillard, on the other hand, has been widely recognized for her awe-inspiring representation of Edith Piaf, the musical sensation who had an untimely end.

The Academy loves portrayals of non-fiction characters. However, they don’t usually award this prize to actors in foreign language films and, while Cotillard has already earned awards for this performance, they have all been abroad. Julie Christie seems to be the front-runner in this race, but only by a nose. Her performance as an Alzheimer’s patient beginning a new romance while her husband watches helplessly in “Away From Her” has been the focus of this awards season.

Still, “Juno” star Ellen Page has been on her heels, gaining the love of critics and viewers nationwide as the plucky title character. And it doesn’t hurt that she is both the youngest and newest nominee of the bunch. The Academy is known for leaning toward breakout performances (see Jennifer Hudson in “Dreamgirls”). Yet critics say Page was just playing a slightly more smart-alecky version of herself and didn’t give the same transcendent performance that

both Cotillard and Christie did.

Predicted and Preferred: Julie Christie in “Away From Her”

As with every Academy Awards show, this collection of nominations isn’t without a few snubs. “3:10 to Yuma” was ignored in every category with the exception of sound mixing and original score. The performances by Christian Bale and Russell Crowe were outstanding, but failed to attract notice. Bale was also ignored for his physically taxing role in “Rescue Dawn.” Joe Wright, while nominated for a Golden Globe, was passed over for Best Director for “Atonement.”

But perhaps one of the greatest tragedies was the rigidity of the Academy’s qualifications for foreign film, which eventually disqualified “The Diving Bell and the Butterfly.”

Other Predictions:
Best Supporting Actor: Javier Bardem, “No Country for Old Men”
Best Supporting Actress: Cate Blanchett, “I’m Not There” (but I really really hope Saoirse Ronan wins for her performance in “Atonement”)
Best Animated Feature: “Ratatouille”
Best Original Screenplay: Diablo Cody, “Juno”
Best Documentary Feature: “No End in Sight”



COURTESY PHOTOS — MIRAMAX FILMS, MIRAMAX FILMS, PARAMOUNT VANTAGE
“No Country for Old Men” is the early leader in the Best Picture category; Joel and Ethan Coen are nominated for Best Director for “No Country for Old Men”; Daniel Day-Lewis is the frontrunner for the Best Actor Oscar for his role as oil man Daniel Plainview in “There Will Be Blood.”

‘Lust’ lacks charm

RAVEONETTES from page 8

Unremarkable songs such as “Black Satin” and “Blush” bleed together. The opening track, “Aly, Walk with Me,” finds Foo sounding like a poor impression of Interpol’s Paul Banks — all mope and no swagger. Surf-rock guitars seem out of place on ‘Lust,’ and other songs try to be eccentric in the vein of The Velvet Underground, but just aren’t interesting enough.

The band aims for more of a shoegaze sound on this, its third full-length LP, but in doing so takes every ounce of fun out of its sound. Fun doesn’t have to define a good album, but it’s certainly hard to stomach 12 tracks of brooding noise pushed way back from the forefront.

★★★★☆



COURTESY PHOTO — MUSHROOMPILLOW.COM
Sune Rose Wagner (LEFT) took over as producer for the Raveonette’s third release, “Lust Lust Lust,” creating a bleaker, more stripped-down sound than on the band’s previous albums.

‘R&G’ delivers sharp performances, direction

‘R&G’ from page 8

Mott choreograph the play to a tee. This physically static play becomes a spectacle of performance, and actions always reflected the sentiment behind the lines.

To illustrate the most important theme — identity crisis — Rosencrantz and Guildenstern switch hats whenever they confuse their identities (which happens quite a lot; in fact, the viewer may wonder whether or not the program offers a definitive answer). The main gimmick for the entire play comes from the scene in “Hamlet” where Gertrude and Claudius mix up the two “adders fanged.”

Little touches like a series of diagrams illustrating the nature of reality not only help illustrate the play’s philosophy but also provide additional visual entertainment. To indicate

uncertainty, the actors stalk back and forth, form two-person, blunt pyramids and toss coins.

Other characters also made use of the impressive direction. The tragedians and their leader, the Player (Katherine Goulde ’10), were wholly entertaining. Goulde’s savvy wise-cracking juxtaposes itself nicely with Rosencrantz and Guildenstern’s constant befuddlement. Her fake death scene would convince anyone unfamiliar with the play that the Player is caput. The players themselves also bring a wonderful sense of comedy, both slapstick and situational, to their scenes. Their theatricality echoes the grotesque aspects of real life — the issues with which Rosencrantz and Guildenstern must struggle.

Schaeffer and Mott deftly weave the “Hamlet” scenes into the realm of Rosencrantz and Guildenstern. The “Hamlet”

actors, especially Justin Vazquez ’10 as Hamlet and Steve Koernig ’08 as Polonius, never step out of character and are hilarious. Without being goofy, they emphasize the most inherently funny traits of their characters, adding to the absurdism of the play. Hamlet’s moodiness results in long, audible sighs, and his cleverest quips (penned by Shakespeare, mind you) sound like crazy inside jokes at which Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are right to raise their eyebrows.

The care this cast put into performance climaxes with the pirate attack when incognito pirates leap out of the audience and kill all but one tragedian. Indeed, as Schaeffer wrote to the audience in the show’s program, “Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are Dead” is a play about “performance.” Everyone certainly came through on that claim.

SPORTS IN BRIEF


WOMEN'S BASKETBALL
College blown out 54-38 by Drexel; fourth-straight loss

The Tribe's conference struggles continued Thursday as the College fell at home to Drexel University, 54-38. Sophomore guard Kelly Heath led the Tribe with eight points, while sophomore center Tiffany Benson grabbed eight boards. The loss marked the Tribe's fourth straight in CAA play, and dropped the College's record to 11-15. The Tribe returns to action Sunday when the team faces the University of North Carolina—Wilmington at 2 p.m.

LACROSSE
Tribe handles Longwood, sets sight on no. 3 Duke

Senior Jaime Sellers exploded for a career-high eight goals and added an assist to lead the College to their second win in as many games, defeating Longwood 22-16 Wednesday. Freshmen Maggie Anderson and Grace Golden added five goals and an assist each to guarantee the Tribe a 2-0 record heading into this week-end's matchup against no. 3 Duke. Freshman goalie Emily Geary earned her second straight win, stopping 12 shots. The no. 3 Blue Devils will battle the Tribe Sunday at 1 p.m. on Busch Field.

WOMEN'S GYMNASTICS
Waldman, Cream earn ECAC accolades at Invite

Coming off another standout performance for the Tribe, senior Stevie Waldman was named ECAC Gymnast of the Week Wednesday, while freshman Melissa Cream garnered her second Rookie of the Week award. At the Sweetheart Invitational this past Saturday, the pair led the College to its highest point total of the season as Waldman set career highs on the vault and beam. Cream also notched career-high marks on the beam and floor exercise.

—By Matt Poms. Photo by Alex Haglund, The Flat Hat.

SCHEDULE

Fri., Feb. 22

TRACK & FIELD
@ Virginia Tech Challenge
WOMEN'S TENNIS
@ Texas — 1 p.m.
BASEBALL
ST. JOSEPH'S

Sat., Feb. 23

TRACK AND FIELD
@ Virginia Tech Challenge
WOMEN'S TENNIS
@ Baylor — 1 p.m.
MEN'S BASKETBALL
LOYOLA (CHICAGO)— 1 p.m.
BASEBALL
ST. JOSEPH'S — 1 p.m.
MEN'S GYMNASTICS
@ Massachusetts Institute of Technology — 2 p.m.

Sun., Feb. 24

BASEBALL
ST. JOSEPH'S — 12 p.m.
WOMEN'S TENNIS
@ TCU — 11 a.m.
WOMEN'S LACROSSE
DUKE — 1 p.m.
WOMEN'S BASKETBALL
@ UNC Wilmington — 2 p.m.
MEN'S GYMNASTICS
vs. University of Illinois-Chicago — Springfield, Mass. — 1 p.m.
GOLF
@ The Cuthbert Cup — Kiawah Island, S.C.
Mon., Feb. 25
GOLF
@ The Cuthbert Cup — Kiawah Island, S.C.

MEN'S BASKETBALL: TRIBE 57, DREXEL 50

Staring down Dragons



SARAH GRAYCE — THE FLAT HAT

Senior Laimus Kisielius, junior Chris Darnell and sophomore David Schneider keep their eyes on Drexel guard Jamie Harris.

COMMENTARY

For Tribe, it comes down to the foul line

Carl Siegmund

FLAT HAT ASSOC. NEWS EDITOR



Entering Wednesday night's game against Drexel, the Tribe ranked last in the CAA in free-throws attempted. It's a stat that has plagued the team since their season opener against Georgetown in November. While they've had success shooting three-pointers in Head Coach Tony Shaver's perimeter-oriented offense, the Tribe's inability to reach the foul line more than their opponents has hurt, especially in their most recent three-game road losing streak, during which they only attempted a combined 26 free throws.

All that changed Wednesday night in the friendly confines of Kaplan Arena, as they gutted out a 57-50 comeback victory and knocked down 20 foul shots, seven more than Drexel.

In the first half against the Dragons, the Tribe shot an abysmal 12.5 percent from beyond the three-point arc and struggled to execute their offense. They were lucky to be down by only three points heading into the locker room at halftime. In the second half, they turned up the pressure by pounding the ball inside and drawing fouls. Also, senior guard Nathan Mann moved well without the basketball and created open jump shots for himself. He canned two three-

pointers down the stretch, igniting his team when they were struggling to score.

Leading the way for the Tribe during their second-half comeback was sophomore point guard David Schneider, who continually beat the Drexel defense on dribble drives to the basket and drew fouls instead of relying on his inconsistent jump shot. On defense, he forced several Drexel turnovers, which led to easy points for the Tribe.

Schneider, who leads the CAA in free-throw percentage, is at his best offensively when he penetrates and gets to the foul line. Many have said the Tribe lives and dies by its three-point shot, but that's not the case. In the 12 games during which they've made more free-throws than their opponent, the Tribe is 11-1.

Another key in the Tribe's victory was preventing Drexel forward Frank Elegar, a member of the CAA's preseason first team, from getting offensive touches. In the Tribe's 73-72 overtime win at Drexel in

January, Elegar scored a game-high 24 points and grabbed 15 rebounds. But Wednesday, junior forward Peter Stein limited Elegar to nine points and five boards. The Tribe's best defensive effort of the game came midway through the first half when Schneider was mismatched against Elegar. The much-taller Elegar tried a post-up move in the lane, but Schneider held his ground and forced him to pass the ball out to the perimeter.

For the majority of the game, Elegar was a non-factor on the low block as the Tribe big men double-teamed him and pressured him into forcing bad shots or passing it out to the perimeter. On the offensive side of the ball, the Tribe big men won the rebounding battle against Elegar and helped create many second-chance scoring opportunities. They finished with 13 second-chance points, compared to only four for Drexel.

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Game on the line

The Tribe is 8-0 in CAA play this season when it makes more free throws than its opponent, while going 2-6 in games when it does not.

Average free throw margin in 10 CAA wins	+1.7
Average free throw margin in six CAA losses	-5.5

Senior forward Laimus Kisielius. Photo by Sarah Grayce, The Flat Hat.


BASEBALL: OPENING DAY PREVIEW

Tribe returns with eye on playoffs

College opens schedule with back-to-back double headers vs. St. Joe's

By MATT POMES
Flat Hat Staff Writer

For many American sports fans February is a time of unbridled optimism. All across the nation, professional, collegiate and high school baseball teams are dusting off the rust of winter and preparing for their spring return to the diamond. Every team has a blank slate, leaving one common thought to run through each player's mind: this could be the year.

The scene is no different in Williamsburg, as 2008 sees the Tribe take the field with hope of a breakout season. The club returns six starting position players and a slew of starting pitchers from last year's 29-25 squad that missed the CAA tournament by a mere game and a half, a factor contributing to the steady optimism permeating the lead in to head coach Frank Leoni's third campaign. With seven players starting for the third consecutive season and a talented pitching staff leading the way, the Tribe is poised to successfully cap consecutive years of rebuilding with a return postseason play.

At the plate, the College hopes to maintain

last season's CAA-leading team batting average while minimizing the loss of CAA co-player of the year and third team All-American Greg Sexton.

While Sexton spearheaded the 2007 attack with his .455 batting average and 10 home runs, a deep, tenacious 2008 lineup will ensure that the Tribe bats do not go silent. Senior catcher Tim Park, who hit .391 and belted 10 home runs in 2007, and junior first baseman Mike Sheridan, who sported a .340 batting average and 39 RBI last season, will lead the offense. Statistically, Sheridan was the NCAA's toughest player to strike out a year ago.

"He refuses to go down on strikes and that is what we are all about," Park said.

The Tribe's starting rotation remains mostly intact as well, as the team returns several successful starters from a year ago. However, questions about depth remain.

"While the pitching staff has increased its quality, the depth is still a question mark right now with only eleven healthy pitchers," Leoni said.

Senior pitcher Pete Vernon will anchor the rotation, looking to build upon last year's 8-5

mark while providing steady, quality outings to begin each conference series.

"Pete Vernon is the pinnacle of consistency," Park said, while touting sophomore pitcher Kevin Landry and freshman pitcher Logan Billbrough as the remaining pieces in the College's rotation. While youth will be served among the starters, veteran guile will rule the bullpen behind a pair of hardthrowing seniors in Pat Kantakevich and southpaw Sean Grieve.

The Tribe will face its first test this weekend when non-conference foe St. Joseph's travels to Plumeri Park for a four-game series. In a pair of doubleheaders, Leoni will throw Vernon and Landry against the Hawks Saturday, while Billbrough and sophomore Tyler Truxell will take the hill a day later.

It will be an exciting year," said Leoni. "Our team is focused and eager to get started."

Tribe rebounds with critical CAA victory after rough 0-3 road trip

By CHRIS WEIDMAN
Flat Hat Staff Writer

After a grueling three-game road trip during which the Tribe finished 0-3, the friendly territory of Kaplan Arena proved to be just the remedy for the College's road blues.

The Tribe (14-12, 10-6 CAA) had four players score double figures in a 57-50 victory over Drexel University (11-17, 4-12) Wednesday evening to help the Tribe maintain its fourth-place position in the CAA.

After shooting a measly 29.6 percent in the first half, the College caught fire in the second, shooting 42 percent overall and 57 percent from beyond the arc after the break.

"This was a great win for our basketball team coming off of a brutal road trip. I allowed our team to lose focus of what is important a little bit," Head Coach Tony Shaver said. "What is important is the next game."

The first half saw the Tribe struggle mightily from the floor. The College took eight fewer shots than the Dragons, and Drexel took a 25-22 lead into the halftime break.

"We were not completing plays [in the first half]" senior guard Nathan Mann said. "Our defense kept us in the game. We did a great job executing in the first half, but missed the shots."

The College held Drexel center Frank Elegar to only one shot in the first frame. Elegar, a likely All-CAA selection, averages over 15 points and eight rebounds per contest. Tribe junior forward Peter Stein was charged with guarding the powerful Elegar, and largely kept the big man in check, allowing Elegar to finish with only nine points and five boards.

The game was a back-and-forth affair with 11 lead changes until the Tribe posted a 7-0 run midway through the second half that put the Tribe up by six. Freshman forward Marcus Kitts was instrumental during the run, scoring in the paint and then assisting on a Mann three-pointer the next possession. The Dragons did not get within three points for the remainder of the contest.

"We knew they would be aggressive on defense," senior forward Laimis Kisielius said. "We were strong with the ball and made our foul shots."

The College finished 20 of 23 from the foul line while holding the Dragons to 13 points at the stripe.

Tramayne Hawthorne of Drexel led all scorers with 14 points. Mann led the Tribe's four double-digit scorers with 13, while Kisielius, sophomore forward Danny Sumner and sophomore guard David Schneider each chipped in 12.

The College's next game is slated for 1 p.m. Saturday as the Tribe hosts Loyola University (Chicago) in an ESPN Bracketbusters matchup.



Junior first baseman Mike Sheridan. Photo courtesy William and Mary Sports Information.